

FATE UP IN AIR, CAPTURED U-2 PILOT WRITES

But Wife's Told Reds Treat Him Well

Milledgeville, Ga., June 14 [Special]—Francis Gary Powers, downed U-2 plane pilot held prisoner in Russia, has written to his wife saying he has no idea of his ultimate fate but has been told he faces punishment ranging from seven years imprisonment to death for flights over the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Barbara Gay Powers, 25, disclosed some of the contents of her husband's letter Tuesday. Her statement was read by her physician, Dr. James Baugh, at a press conference at which Mrs. Powers did not appear.

Well Treated in Prison

The pilot's wife said she received the letter in regular mail May 31 and that it was postmarked Moscow five days earlier. It was in her husband's handwriting, she said, and didn't appear to be restrained. Excerpts of her statement read:

"He described his first sensation of coming down in a parachute, landing and receiving a minor skin wound on the face. He was taken into custody. A lady physician treated his wound.

"He is getting plenty of food and is being treated well. In prison he has books to read. The prison room is

Hears from Mate



(UPI Telephoto)
Mrs. Barbara Gay Powers, who revealed in Milledgeville, Ga., that she has received a letter from her husband, Francis Powers, U-2 plane pilot imprisoned by the Russians.

a yard where he gets sunshine.

Moscow Beautiful City

"A few days after his capture he was taken on a tour of Moscow and shown the remains of his plane. He described Moscow as a beautiful city.

"My husband has no idea of his ultimate fate. They have told him he will be tried in accordance with act 2 of the soviet code for espionage. Conviction carries sentence of seven years and death.

"I am hopeful that my husband will be returned soon. I am constantly praying that Premier Khrushchev will requite us as he has in other cases."

Dr. Baugh, answering questions, said Powers en-

couraged his wife to visit Moscow. It was not indicated whether she will. The pilot's father, Oliver Powers of Pound, Va., said Monday he plans to visit his son in about 60 days.

The physician said much of Power's letter "was concerned with personal things." Among these was the pilot's lament that "our boat trip back will have to be postponed and the home we planned will have to be put off."

Powers was captured May 1 after his plane was downed deep in Russian territory. Several weeks later his wife was flown to the United States from Turkey, where she was recovering from a leg broken in a skiing accident. She is now living at the home of her mother in this quiet Georgia town.